

'But, Bishop, I thought that was one of *your* dogs!' says Senator Edward Kennedy in this cartoon by Orin Scott of Beeld.

# The 'rotten spots' must be eradicated

**SELDOM** has the Afrikaans Press mounted such a campaign of orchestrated bitterness and vituperation as it turned on Senator Edward Kennedy during his visit to South Africa. At one end of the spectrum Dr Willem de Klerk, editor of Rapport, accused Senator Kennedy of playing a role in South Africa that would have befitted a prostitute; at the other the Transvaler thought it a good idea to exhume all the nastinesses of Chappaquiddick.

In an editorial after Senator Kennedy's departure the Burger said that 'this personification of the extremes of arrogance, hypocritical moral standpoints and self-righteous self-satisfaction' had practically had to slink out of the country because of the bitter polarisation that his visit had helped to exacerbate among those in whose name he had ostensibly come to speak.

One or two commentators, however, stressed that there were lessons to be learned from the visit. In Beeld Piet Muller said one ought to acknowledge frankly that all the 'rotten spots' the visitor had conveniently used as the background for his television pronouncements had been handed to him on a platter.

Senator Kennedy's effrontery and his oversimplification of complex problems did not take away from our own responsibility to find the rotten spots and inequities and to get rid of them in the name of fairness and justice.

Harald Pakendorf, editor of the Vaderland,

pointed out that the Kennedy visit had confirmed the fact that the business sector, and in particular its Afrikaans component, had become an influential political voice that was, on certain points, far ahead of the Government.

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SENATOR KENNEDY's visit to the Nancefield hostel has turned the attention of more than one newspaper to the evils of migratory labour.

Rapport, in a special article, said there were much deeper and more tragic aspects of migratory labour than eight men living cooped up in a filthy hovel.

In an editorial Beeld said it could not be disguised that such conditions called for immediate rectification. Another look should also be taken at the whole system of migratory labour.

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WHERE other Afrikaans newspapers have hinted — and in some cases more than hinted — that contact between the Government and the outlawed ANC is on some

hidden agenda the Transvaler has given a firm thumbs-down to any such idea.

It welcomed the State President's assurance that no secret meetings were taking place with the ANC. However much South Africa would like to see a settlement that included the blacks it

The institute consists of 50 people of all population groups who 'seek to think in obedience to the Bible'. It is probably further to the Left than any other organisation within the pale of respectable Afrikanerdom.

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HAVING excoriated the Star for using alleged ac-

**The Afrikaans Press**  
by James McClurg



was unthinkable that it would sit at the conference table with an organisation that had up to now committed itself to violence, terror and intimidation in order to achieve its communist-inspired aims.

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AN inter-faculty institute of the University of Potchefstroom, the Institute of Reformatory Study, has called for a five-year plan to draw all South Africans into the mainstream of politics.

According to Beeld, a document submitted by the Institute to the rector of the university, Professor Tjaart van der Walt, also urges the university to take its courage in both hands and open its doors unconditionally to all students.

It rejects Christian National Education, a concept that has always been closely associated with the University of Potchefstroom.

tions by the security police as an excuse for publishing scandalous rumours involving Dr Allan Boesak, Beeld turned later to the Boesak affair itself.

If the allegation against Dr Boesak of an extramarital love affair was true, said Beeld, it would be the height of Pharisaism for him to be allowed to continue in his high ecclesiastical posts.

However, if it ever appeared that any State organisation was setting out to scabble around in the private lives of 'political opponents' in order to discredit them, Beeld would fight it with all the power at its command until it was totally eradicated.

Such methods were not to be found in decent societies — only in third-rate dictatorships.

It should not be difficult, Beeld said, to find out who was responsible for the pamphlet that lay behind the incident.